

Genesis 3:14-20

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- What is the woman's **desire?** (physical attraction?)
- Is the woman's desire really that she's so attracted to the man that she's willing to endure the husband ruling over her? (opposite?)

Genesis 4:7

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Genesis 4:7 - **sin** is crouching at the door. Its **desire is for you**, but **you must rule over it**.

- Sin's desire is to control Cain, but God tells Cain to subdue/rule over the sin
- The woman will have the same desire for her husband that sin has for Cain
- The woman's **desire** is to control her husband
- The husband's reaction will be to subdue/rule over the woman
- The husband has the same need to control his wife as Cain had to control sin
- Both actions are not the way things were originally intended (conflict, enmity)
- **Genesis 2:18, 21; 3:6-7, 9; 17** (Adam's headship)
- **Ephesians 5:21-33**

Genesis 3:16b. – ...Your **desire** shall be **for your husband**, and **he shall rule over you**.

- Sin has corrupted the willing submission of the wife and the loving headship of the husband
- In order for the wife to control her husband or for the husband to rule over his wife, each one must put themselves first instead of each other (**Ephesians 5:28-29**)
- The danger in marriage will now be that each wants to have dominion over the other

Genesis 1:28 - ...**Be fruitful and multiply** and fill the earth and **subdue it and have dominion...over** every living thing that moves on **the earth**.

Genesis 3:16 - **I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing...Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.**

- They were supposed to subdue creation, but now they desire to subdue each other

Genesis 3:16b. – ...Your **desire** shall be **for your husband**, and **he shall rule over you**.

- A domineering husband or wife dishonors God
- Creation should be subdued by men and women because they are God's image bearers equally
- The woman is not greater than the man and the man is not greater than the woman
- Marriage brings them into one flesh, but they still function as they were designed
- Man is still designed by God to lead, love, and protect
- The woman is still designed to respect and submit to her husband's leading and compliment the man where he's lacking
- But the reality of living in a fallen world, is that both the man and the woman will be tempted to be too passive or too strong
- Strong men, weak men
- Strong women, weak women
- Godly/ungodly

Genesis 3:17-19 – And to Adam he said, **Because you have listened to the voice of your wife** and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, You shall not eat of it...

- **Genesis 2:17** says “...for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”
- Adam had known the commandment to not eat of the tree, but he did it anyway
- God says the reason Adam sinned was “you have listened to the voice of your wife”
- Adam chose his wife’s words over God’s because Adam doesn’t believe God

Genesis 16:1-2 - Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. 2 And Sarai said to Abram, Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her. **And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.**

Job 2:9-10 - Then his wife said to him, Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die. 10 But he said to her, You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good from God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this **Job did not sin...**

Genesis 3:17-18 – ...**cursed is the ground** because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; 18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

- Adam who was formed from the ground would now have an adversarial relationship with the ground, it would resist him when he works (conflict)
- Before it had produced food in abundance and it was easy to enjoy
- Now, it would still produce food, but also thorns and thistles
- Thorns hurt and thistle is unrelenting in growing where you don't want it
- Thorns and thistles were not the original design for creation
- They are to be reminders of sin (Jesus - crown of thorns, Abraham - ram in a thicket)
- Unfamiliar with thorns and thistles, Adam would soon discover what they were
- Every time he would reach for food he would be mindful of the thorns
- Every time he would plant new crops, he would have to remove the thistle that never goes away
- Adam lives for 930 years

Genesis 3:19 – By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

- Work is good, God worked (**Genesis 2:1-3**)
- Adam worked before sin (**Genesis 2:15**)
- Work was a pleasure
- Now, work is accompanied by pain, sweat (exhaustion and weariness)
- **Ecclesiastes 1:1-4; 2:11; 18-23**
- No one escapes work and most work is frustrating because it seems so futile
- Anything we gain from work, in an Earthly sense, will soon be lost and passed on to the next generation
- Because we will all eventually return to the dust we work at every day
- God had warned Adam and Eve of the consequence of eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
- So in the end, we all die
- **Ecclesiastes 2:24-25**

Genesis 3:16-19

- While the effects of sin meant death outside of Eden, Adam and Eve (and us), still get to experience benefits and blessings
- But now these benefits and blessings will be tainted by pain and struggle
- We still get the blessings of childbearing
- It's painful to have and raise a child
- But all those pains go away when that baby is born
- The husband and wife will have conflict with each other
- But the conflict is not with some stranger or even an enemy
- It's with someone who loves you, someone who can forgive you
- Work is still exhausting and futile
- But we still get to eat, to afford things, to live
- God curses the ground, but He also sends the rain to water it
- Man sweats, but we recover
- We die, but we will be raised again

Genesis 3:20 - The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

- At first, this verse seems to have no connection to the verses before it
- Imagine the scene that is going on in the garden (**V.8-10**)
- God is handing out punishment and He starts with the serpent (**V.14-15**)
- Can you imagine the fear that must have come over Adam and Eve at that moment?
- They saw the serpent's judgement and they knew they were next
- As they listen to God's punishment for them, they realize that although they will experience the effects of sin and eventually they'll die, they are not cursed personally
- Even though life would be difficult and painful, God said the woman would have children
- Since she had not given birth yet, that meant she wouldn't physically die yet
- Since she had not conceived yet, that meant Adam wouldn't die yet either
- More than that, one of their kids would crush the head of the serpent and reverse the curse – there was hope!

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- God does not name the woman and there's no indication she wanted a new name
- But Adam just seems to burst out and decides to name the woman
- This isn't the first time he's done this (**Genesis 2:19-20**)
- When Adam named something, he took into account it's nature
- **V.20** – Eve means “life” or “living”
- The meaning of the name is important because they didn't have any children
- When Adam and Eve ate of the fruit, they were saying to God “I don't believe you”
- After hearing God's judgment and then also about the future hope, when Adam named the woman Eve, Adam was saying to God “I believe you”
- Adam demonstrated faith in God
- Adam had faith that God would keep His promise and provide a deliverer

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- It's not just Adam who feels this way (**Genesis 4:1**)
- When Eve had Cain she thought that she just had the deliverer that was promised
- Eve had faith also
- Faith is trusting in what God has revealed

Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

- To have faith is to say to the Lord "I believe you"
- Everyone who has come after Adam and Eve has had to have faith in order to submit to God

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- Abraham walked by faith (**Hebrews 11:8-13; 17-19**)
- **Genesis 16:1-3; 15-17:5**
- His original name was Abram – “exalted father”
- The problem was that Abram had no children
- In **Chapter 13** we learn that Abram splits off from Lot and Abram settles in the land of Hebron
- Hebron is at the crossroads of an important caravan routes going East and West
- People would often stop in Hebron to have there animals fed and get supplies
- In the evening the merchants would come to Abram’s tent before they left
- Imagine the questions Abram would be asked

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- As time goes on and Abram and Sarai get older, whispers would start about who was sterile, Abram or Sarai
- Eventually the pressure builds and Sarai can't take it anymore
- She tells her husband to take her servant Hagar
- At 86, finally, Abram has 1 child
- 13 years later, at 99, God changes Abram's name to Abraham
- Abraham - "father of a multitude"
- What do you think the reaction was when Abraham broke the news to everyone at 99 that he was changing his name to "father of a multitude?"
- **Genesis 15:1-6**

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- God made a promise and Abraham believed what God said
- His name change reflected a divine promise, and Abraham had faith in God's promise
- Abraham believed he would be the father of a multitude
- Adam and Eve believed Eve would be the mother of all living
- The naming of Eve matters because responding in faith to God matters
- Even after all of the judgement that was pronounced against them, they showed signs of faith
- Adam and Eve heard the promise of **Genesis 3:15** and became the first to believe